

# Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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## Editorial

### The Remedy

Are you worried, brother, because you cannot get good service from a number of the members of your congregation? Try the effect of putting the church paper into their hands. Get them to subscribe for the EVANGELIST, and note the change which will soon take place. Get them in touch and sympathy with the work of the church. Get them to feel that they are a part of a working, active, Christian brotherhood, having for its object the promotion of righteousness and the salvation of men, and they will soon come to have a sense of their personal responsibility in the premises. They will soon show a more active and more sympathetic interest in the home congregation, and to contribute to its support more liberally of time, energy and means. Better than your best sermon would be the result of placing the EVANGELIST into every family in your congregation.

### God's Great Things

The birds are pluming for their annual pilgrimage to more genial climes, where winter's fierce blast cannot reach them, or hide the bounty of nature from their hunger. Go, little friends, little melody warblers, winged and wonderful epitomes of joy and lightsome grace, go where the magnolia bloom and the orange blossom tells of the fadeless summer land where never chilling breath of winter blights the radiant robe of exuberant arborescence. Alas, we cumbrous, dull clods have no wings to bear us away from trouble. How heavy is our pilgrimage, and how impotent to escape the swift coming winter winds and death winds. "Oh, for the wings of a dove,"—but let there be patience. He who made the wings of a bird has said that we are of more value than many sparrows. And the time shall be when God's trusting and patient ones "shall mount up as eagles." He made the birds to show us some of the little things he can do. Wait for God's great things.

### On Doctrine

Provision has been made by the president of the young people's societies of the Brethren church for a series of doctrinal studies. Once a month, instead of the regular C. E. topic, a doctrinal subject has been substituted. It will be observed, however, that the topics for which these special subjects have been substituted, are also given on the

topic card. The study of these subjects therefore is optional, tho it is hoped that all our young people will take advantage of this opportunity to acquaint themselves more thoroughly with those doctrines which make the Brethren church a separate organization. The special subject for November is Baptism, one of the most important in the series of these studies. The notes on the topic appear in this issue, and they are very complete. The subject should be announced at least two weeks ahead and special preparation should be made for an exhaustive study. The most experienced leader should be chosen for this service. As a rule the pastor should lead this meeting. New Testament references on the subject of baptism should be assigned to different members of the class and comments made on the same. Be sure to find all the references in the New Testament where baptism was administered, whether after or before Pentecost. The following is a suggestive outline: (1) The Design of Baptism. (2) Proper Subjects for Baptism. (3) The Mode of Baptism. It seems to us this would be a splendid opportunity to distribute good literature on the subject of Baptism. See announcement of suitable tracts on page 14 of this issue.

### Burden Shifters

It is a part of our natural and inevitable situation in this world that we are burden bearers. At this point we find the most interesting manifestations of human nature. What a volume it would take to record the various and ingenious expedients employed to get rid of the burden. These generally take the form of shifting upon the shoulders of others. The primal and universal burden of toil, how shrewd and persistent, with what consummate management, have men sought to lay it upon the less fortunate, the less able to protect themselves from this iniquity of the ages. In every imaginable form, from the slavery of barbarous and semi-barbarous times to the consummate financiering of a more democratic civilization, the strong have made the weak their hewers of wood and drawers of water. My neighbor has his own burdens, to be sure, and heavy ones, but he must bear mine also, be grateful for the privilege, and receive my contempt into the bargain. Then there are the burdens of social, moral and spiritual responsibility; how loath we are to carry them manfully, and how willing to let others carry them. I stint my contributions to the church treasury, the pastor's salary, or to missions because brother

A B and C always make up the deficiency. Oh, thou burden shifter, take a microscope and look at yourself. That is the manly, the grand man, who cheerfully bears his own burden, and who now and then slips the corner of his shoulder under his neighbor's burden when it bears heavily; like his Master who said: "Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you."

### Profit By Him

That critic of yours may be caustic, even malicious; but why should you assume a foolish attitude toward him? Why should you suffer yourself to be annoyed? Indeed why should you not make him a very profitable investment? Suppose he goes so far as to be an enemy, so much the better. He will probably say things about your work which will be far more useful to you than the eulogies of all your friends. Suppose he attacks your reputation, or your character; consider it well, and the attack will show you your vulnerable point, your weakness, the very thing in fact which your friends had been hiding from you. Then again his aspersions may have a fine effect upon that pride, or that big-head, real enemies indeed which were creeping upon you unawares. Observe your critic or your enemy with great interest and positive sympathy, for he is likely, if you are sensible, be more serviceable to you than all the rest of mankind put together. Then think of the admirable effect upon your character and your spiritual life if you habitually and cheerfully feel kindly toward him, and pray for him. By watching you will discover opportunities to heap coals of fire on his head, and then in all probability you will lose that enemy and have to look for another. It is an interesting experience.

### Look to Jesus

When Peter on the boisterous sea turned his eyes away from the Master and looked at the waves he immediately began to go down. That is the way of many people. For a time one would think they are born upward on the wings of faith, and that no earthly storms can touch them. Hear them tell of their wonderful religious experiences, and you conclude that they are able to walk triumphantly over the most troubled sea, but how soon their eyes are turned away from Jesus to look at the dangers with which they are surrounded, their faith quivers and trembles and down they go beneath the waves of sorrow and trouble. It is not ours to look at the dangers around us; we have nothing to